

**Amendments to the Claims**

With changes shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter), please re-write the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) An apparatus for fastening an earring, said apparatus comprising:

a motor adapted for generating a torque; and

an earring back holder adapted for applying said torque to an earring back,

said motor being spring operated.

Claim 2 (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said earring back holder is removable.

Claim 3 (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said earring back holder is magnetized.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a clutch adapted for limiting said torque.

Claim 7 (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said motor is reversible.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) An apparatus for fastening an earring, said apparatus comprising:

a motor adapted for generating a torque; ~~and~~

an earring back holder adapted for applying said torque to an earring back; and

a clutch adapted for limiting said torque,

said earring back holder being removable,

said motor being ~~electrically~~ spring operated.

Claim 9 (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said earring back holder is magnetized.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said motor is reversible.

Claim 13 (Original) A method for fastening an earring, said method comprising:

generating a torque using a motor; and

applying said torque to an earring back using an earring back holder.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said earring back holder is removable.

Claim 15 (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ method of claim 13 wherein said earring back holder is magnetized.

Claim 16 (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said motor is electrically operated.

Claim 17 (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said motor is spring operated.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising limiting said torque using a clutch.

Claim 19 (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said motor is reversible.